

# MotoShield: Open Miniaturized DC Motor Hardware Prototype for Control Education

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# Motivation: Hands-on control engineering education

- Control engineering students require extensive hands-on training
- Numerical exercises and simulation examples are not enough
- The ongoing pandemic has shown the value of take-home experiments
- The closed-loop feedback control of the speed of a direct current (DC) motor is one of the fundamental examples in control engineering

DC Motor speed control simulation example in a well-known educational resource:

The screenshot shows the 'CONTROL TUTORIALS FOR MATLAB & SIMULINK' website. The navigation bar includes links for INTRODUCTION, CRUISE CONTROL, MOTOR SPEED, MOTOR POSITION, SUSPENSION, and INVERTED PENDULUM. The left sidebar lists categories: SYSTEM, MODELING, ANALYSIS, CONTROL (highlighted), and SIMULINK. The main content area is titled 'DC Motor Speed: System Modeling' and includes a section for 'Physical setup' with a diagram of a DC motor's armature circuit and rotor.

**DC Motor Speed: System Modeling**

Key MATLAB commands used in this tutorial are: `tf`, `ss`

**Physical setup**

A common actuator in control systems is the DC motor. It directly provides rotary motion and, coupled with wheels or drums and cables, can be used to simulate a wide range of mechanical systems. The electric equivalent circuit of the armature and the free-body diagram of the rotor are shown in the following figure.

The diagram illustrates the electrical and mechanical components of a DC motor. On the left, the 'Armature circuit' is shown as a series combination of a voltage source  $v$ , a resistor  $R$ , and an inductor  $L$ . The current  $i$  flows clockwise through this circuit. The inductor is connected to a motor symbol representing the rotor. The rotor is shown as a circle with a curved arrow indicating its angular position  $\theta$  and angular velocity  $\dot{\theta}$ . The rotor is coupled to a 'Fixed field' (represented by a cloud-like shape) and has a moment of inertia  $J$ . The back EMF  $e$  is shown as a voltage source in series with the rotor, opposing the applied voltage  $v$ .



# Motivation: DC motor control – Commercial Trainers



Quanser QNET DC Motor



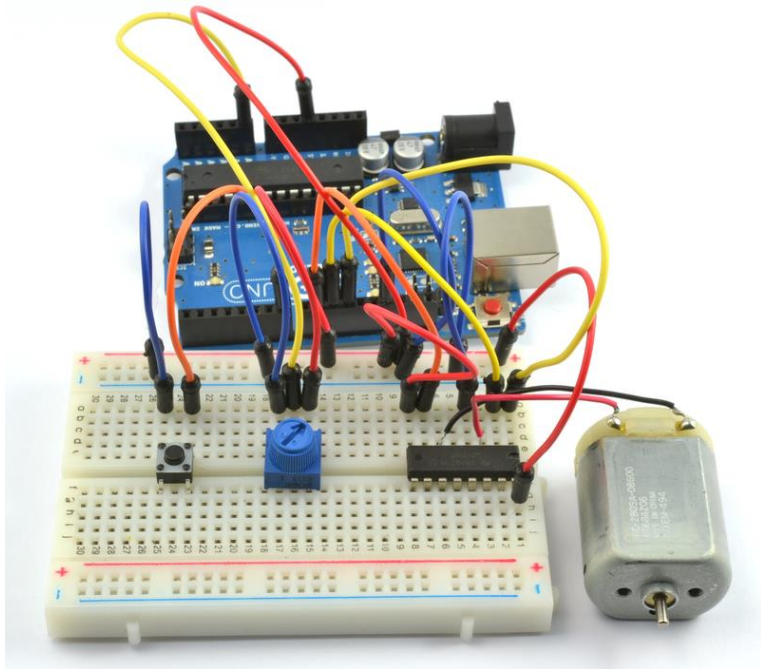
BYTRONIC DC Motor Training System



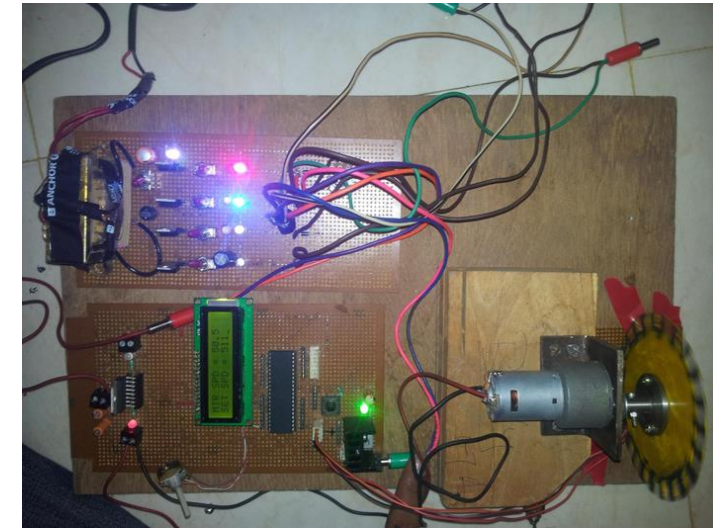
Xing Ke MMT1A



# Motivation: DC motor control – Improvised Devices



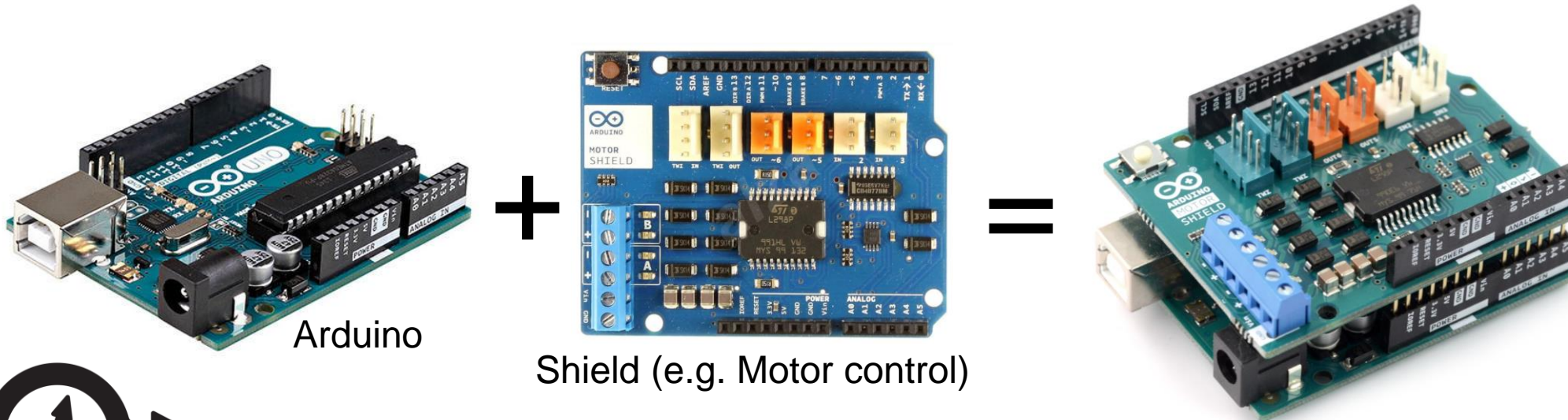
Open-loop  
(no feedback)!





# Motivation: Source of inspiration - Arduino, a universal platform to build on

- Cheap
- Open-source
- Easy to buy
- Standardized
- Free integrated development environment (IDE)
- Great community and abundance of learning materials
- **Cross-compatibility and easy hardware expansion through so-called Shields**





## AutomationShield

Control Engineering Education

Create novel tools for control engineering and mechatronics education, implementing a lab experiment on a single Arduino expansion Shield, essentially a tiny control / mechatronics laboratory in the palm of your hand that is

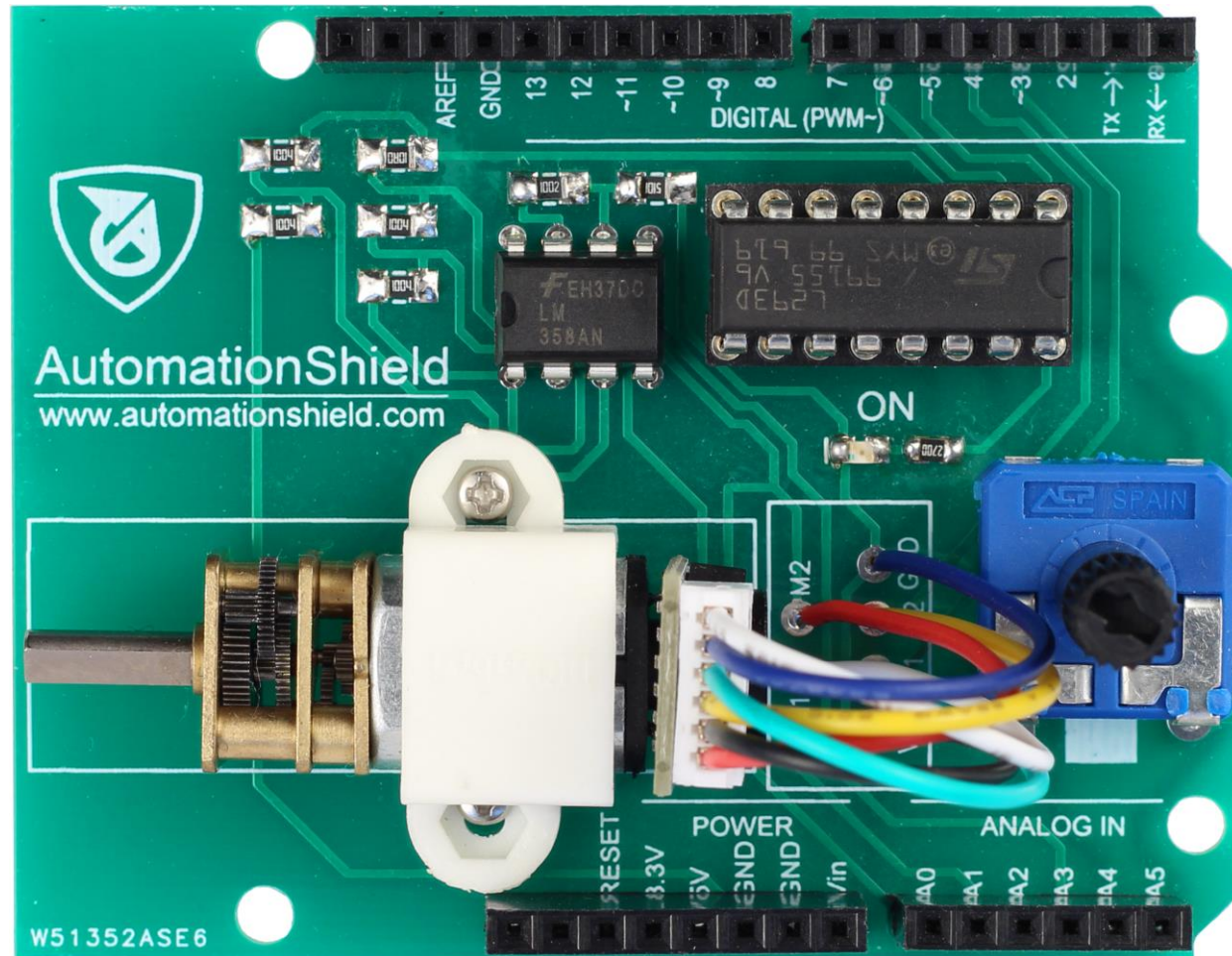
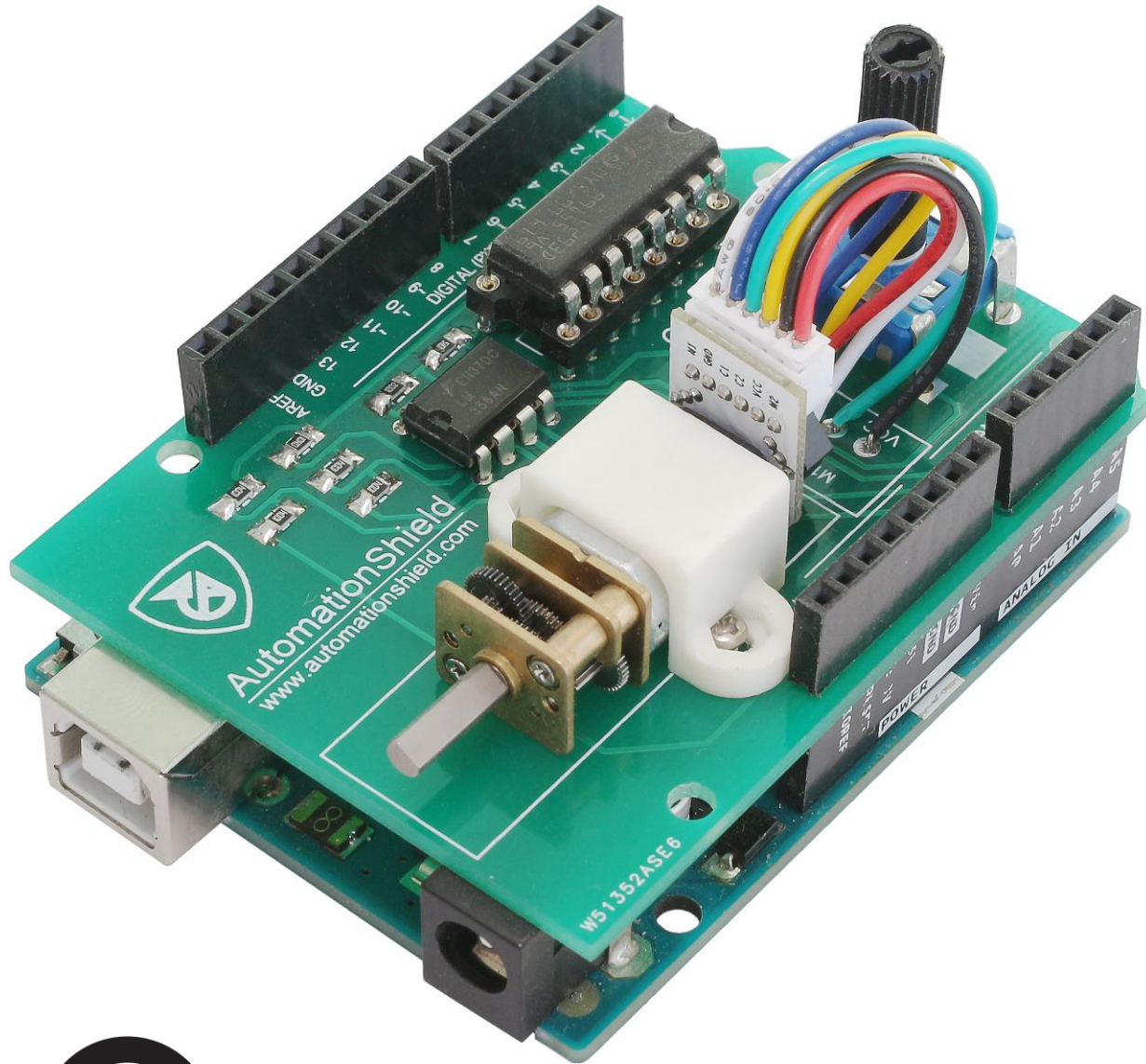
- Cheap
- Open-source
- Possible to build at home even by beginners (DIY)
- Standardized
- Free software library compatible to the Arduino IDE



Visit [www.automationshield.com](http://www.automationshield.com) ...

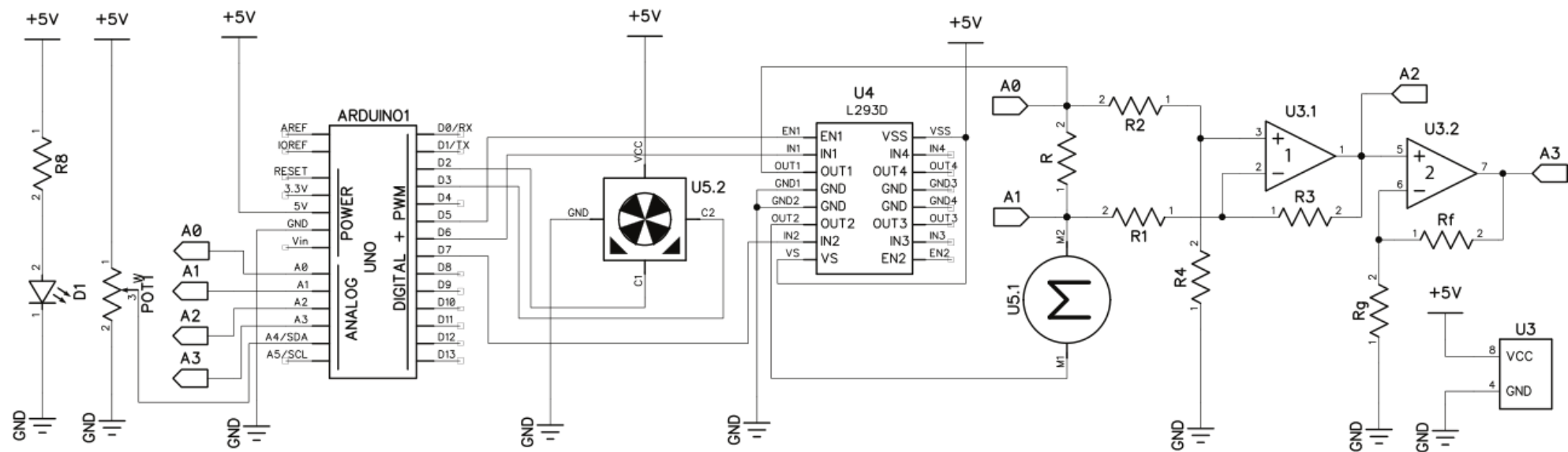


# Introducing the MotoShield – an early prototype

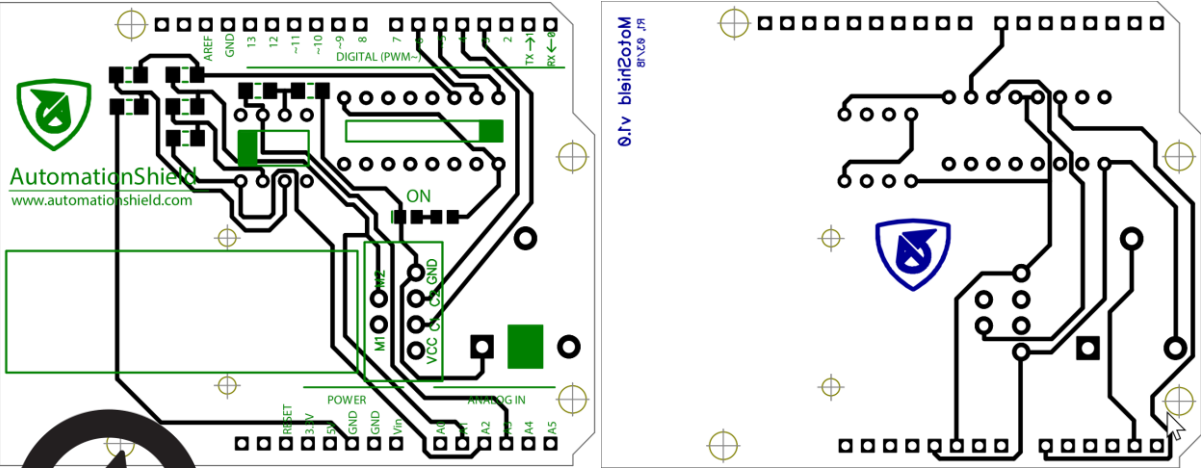


# MotoShield: Open-Source Hardware (see [www.automationshield.com](http://www.automationshield.com))

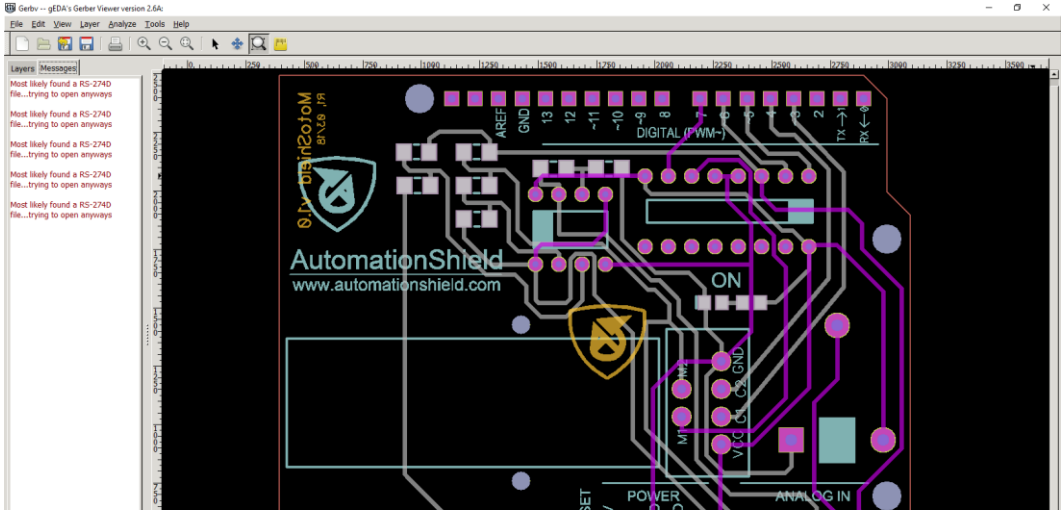
Editable schematic files:



Editable PCB layouts:



Manufacturing-ready formats:





# MotoShield: A truly low-cost hardware

Name	Description	PCB	Mark	Pcs.	Unit	Total (\$)
PCB	FR4, 2 layer, 1.6 mm thick		(a)	1	0.48	0.48
DC motor	DFRobot FIT0487 DC motor with gearbox and encoder	U5	(c)	1	12.20	12.20
Motor bracket	DFRobot FIT0160 plastic bracket for motor with bolts and nuts		(d)	1	3.68	3.68
Opamp	LM358AN, operational amplifier	U3	(g)	1	0.24	0.24
Motor Driver	L293D, push-pull 4-channel motor driver	U4	(e)	1	3.59	3.59
DIP16 socket	DIP16 IC socket	U4		1	0.08	0.08
Resistor	1 M $\Omega$ 0.5%, 0805, SMD	R1,R2,R3,R4	(h)	4	0.03	0.12
Resistor	10 $\Omega$ 0.1%, 0805, SMD	R	(f)	1	0.03	0.03
Resistor	10 k $\Omega$ 0.5%, 0805, SMD	Rf	(i)	1	0.04	0.04
Resistor	5.1 k $\Omega$ 0.5%, 0805, SMD	Rg	(j)	1	0.016	0.016
Resistor	270 $\Omega$ 5%, 0805, SMD	R8	(m)	1	0.004	0.004
LED	Red LED, 0805, SMD	D1	(n)	1	0.07	0.07
Pot shaft	5×18.7 mm; e.g. ACP 14187-NE		(l)	1	0.10	0.10
Trimmer	10 k $\Omega$ , 250 mW, single turn THT trimmer	POT1	(k)	1	0.34	0.34
Header	10×1, female, stackable, 0.1" pitch (e.g. SparkFun 474-PRT-10007)		(b)	1	0.072	0.072
Header	8×1, female, stackable, 0.1" pitch (e.g. SparkFun 474-PRT-10007)		(b)	2	0.22	0.22
Header	6×1, female, stackable, 0.1" pitch (e.g. SparkFun 474-PRT-10007)		(b)	1	0.11	0.11

\$22



Simplified application programming interface (API) in C/C++ included within the **AutomationShield library** for the free Arduino IDE:

- Initialize hardware

```
MotoShield.begin();
```

- Calibrate speed limits

```
MotoShield.calibration();
```

- Read motor speed to  $y$  (% or rpm)

```
y = MotoShield.sensorRead();
```

- Send a certain power  $u$  to DC motor (% PWM)

```
MotoShield.actuatorWrite(u);
```

- Read external reference  $r$

```
r = MotoShield.referenceRead();
```



# MotoShield: Further possibilities: MATLAB and Simulink API



API available for MATLAB as well, keeps consistent nomenclature and usage with the Arduino API:

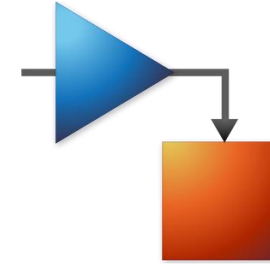
- Initialize hardware

```
MotoShield.begin()
```

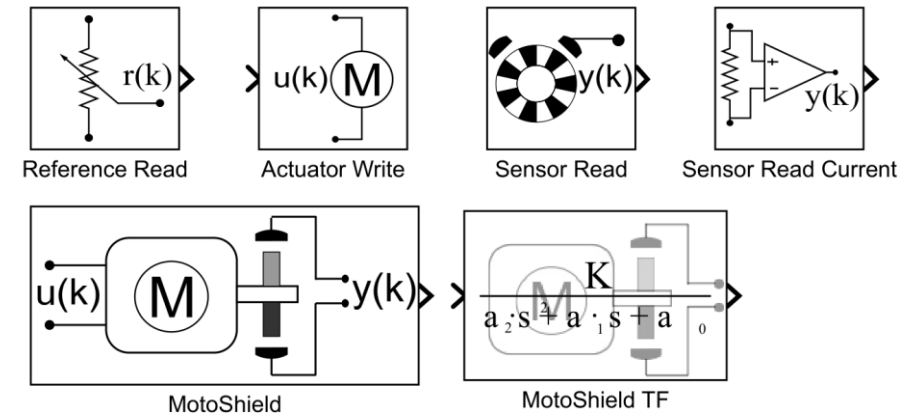
- Calibrate speed limits

```
MotoShield.calibration()
```

[...]



API created for the Simulink with real-time control and deployment features:

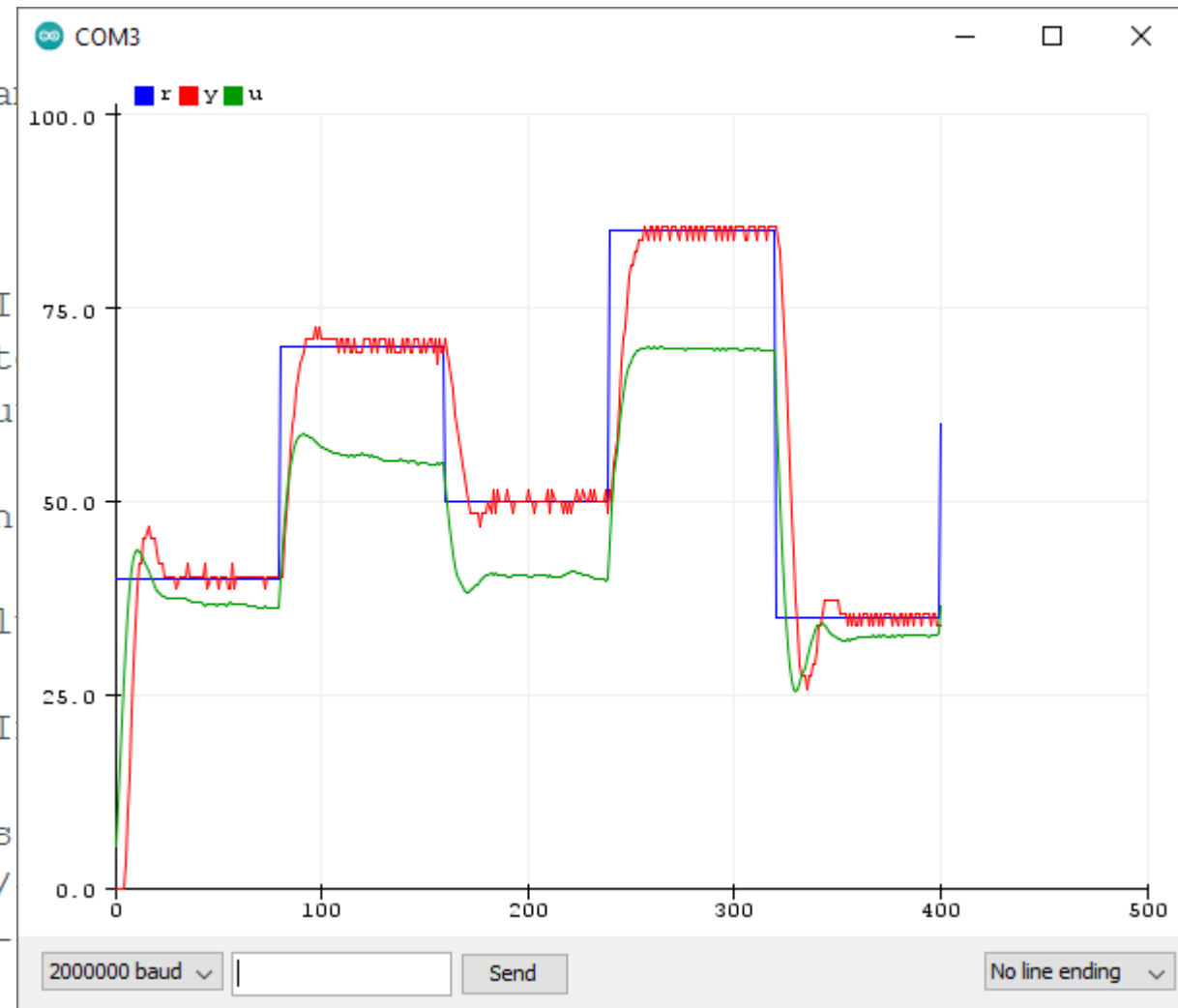


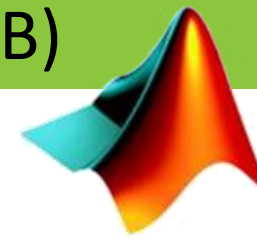


# Typical classroom examples: PID control (Arduino IDE)



```
MotoShield.stepEnable=false;  //--Setting the flag to false # built-in ISR sets flag to true at the e
}
}
void step(){ //--Algorith ran once per sa
#if !AUTO
  r = MotoShield.referenceRead();
#else AUTO
  if(i >= sizeof(R)/sizeof(float)){ //--I
    MotoShield.actuatorWrite(0.0); //--St
    while(true); //--End of program execu
  }
  if (k % (T*i) == 0){ //--Moving through
    r = R[i];
    i++;          //--Change input val
  }
  k++;          //--I
#endif
  y = MotoShield.sensorRead();    //--Sens
  u = PIDAbs.compute(r-y,0,100,0,100);  //--
  MotoShield.actuatorWrite(u);  //--
```





## 1. First-principles modeling    2. DAQ and Identification    3. Validation

$$J\ddot{\omega}(t) = K_t i(t) - b\dot{\omega}(t)$$

$$U(t) = Ri(t) + L\frac{di(t)}{dt} + \varepsilon(t),$$



$$G(s) = \frac{K}{K^2 + (Js + b)(Ls + R)}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \ddot{\omega}(t) \\ \dot{i}(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{b}{J} & \frac{K}{J} \\ -\frac{K}{L} & -\frac{R}{L} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{\omega}(t) \\ i(t) \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{1}{L} \end{bmatrix} U(t)$$

```
data = detrend(data);
data.InputName = 'Input Voltage';
data.InputUnit = 'V';
data.OutputName{1} = 'Angular Velocity';
data.OutputUnit{1} = 'rad/s';
data.OutputName{2} = 'Current';
data.OutputUnit{2} = 'A';
data.Tstart = 0;
data.TimeUnit = 's';

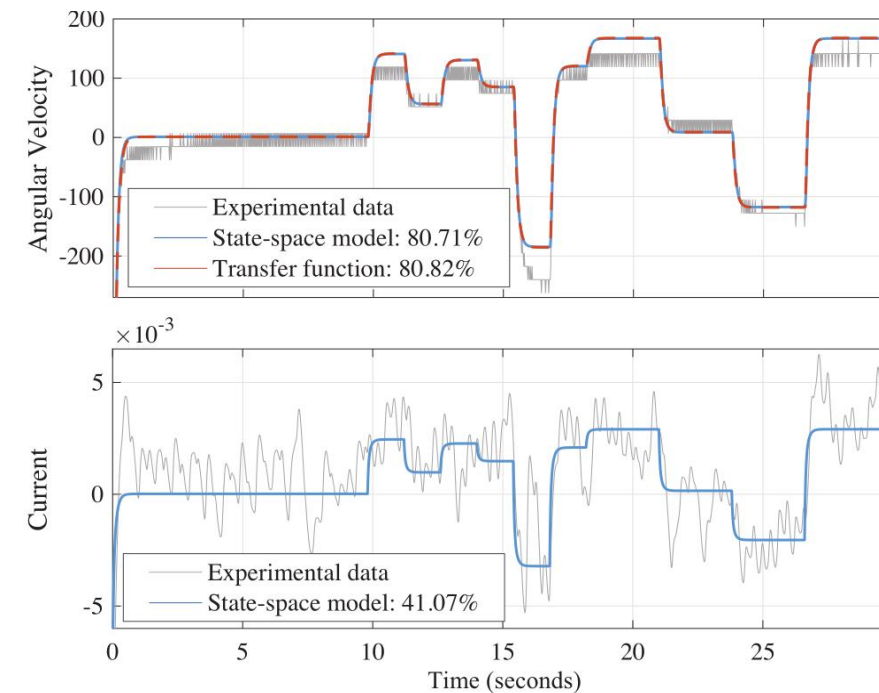
%% Initial guess of model parameters
J = 0.01;      % Moment of inertia
b = 0.1;      % Viscous friction constant
Ke = 1;       % Electromotive force constant # Voltage
Kt = 1;       % Motor torque constant # Torque on shaft
R = 10;       % Electric resistance
L = 3;        % Electric inductance

dtheta0 = data.y(1,1); % Initial velocity
i0 = data.y(1,2);      % Initial current

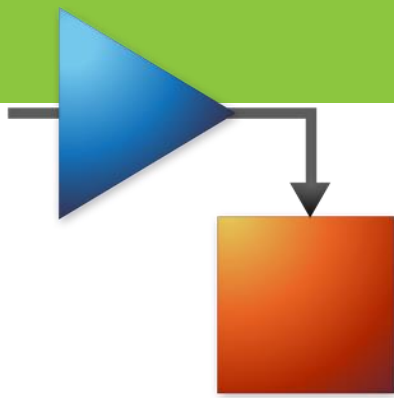
%_StateSpace Model
A = [-b/J      Kt/J;
     -Kt/L     -R/L];

B = [ 0;
      1/L];

C = [1 0;
      0 1];
D = [0;
      0];
K = zeros(2,2);
x0 = [dtheta0; i0];
```

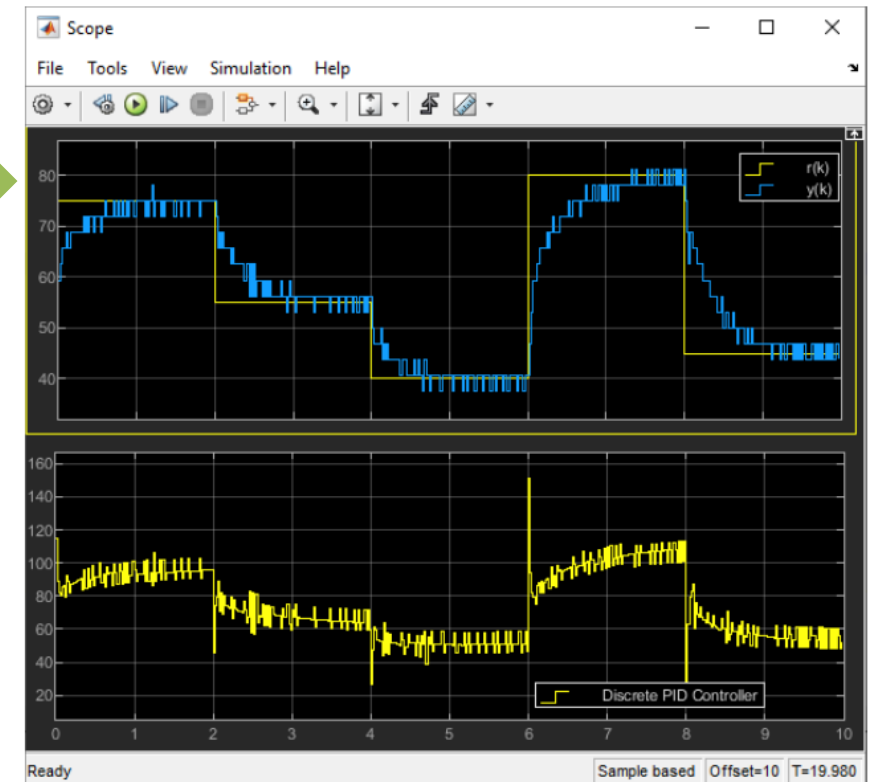
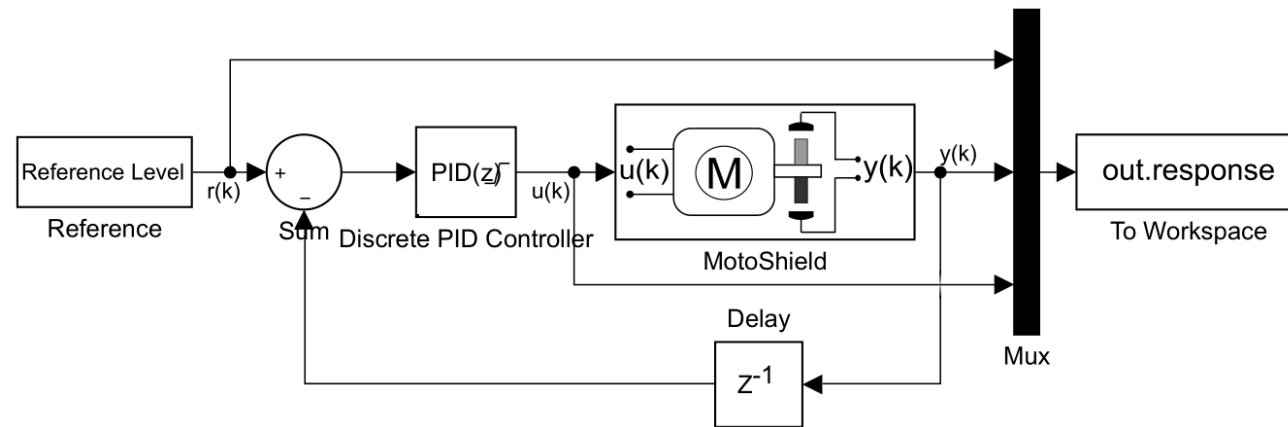


# Typical classroom examples: Auto-generated control code (Simulink)



1. Block scheme using the Simulink API

2. Deployment to MCU and live view





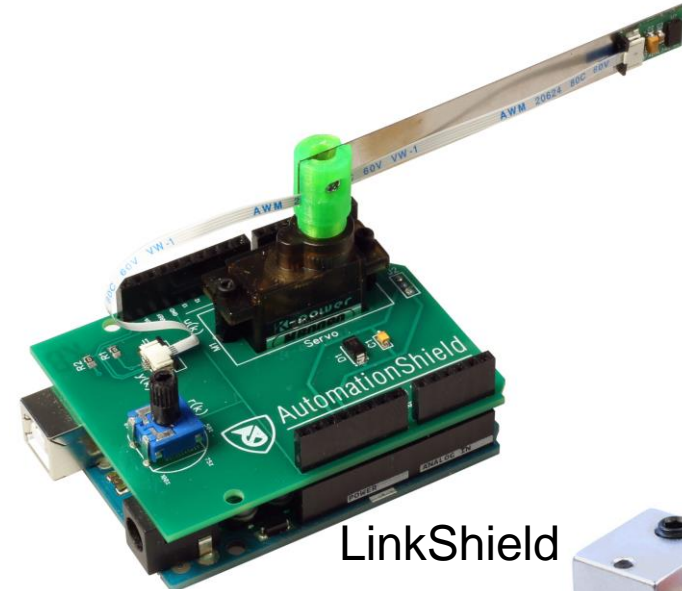
Other “shields” within our open initiative – visit [www.automationshield.com](http://www.automationshield.com)



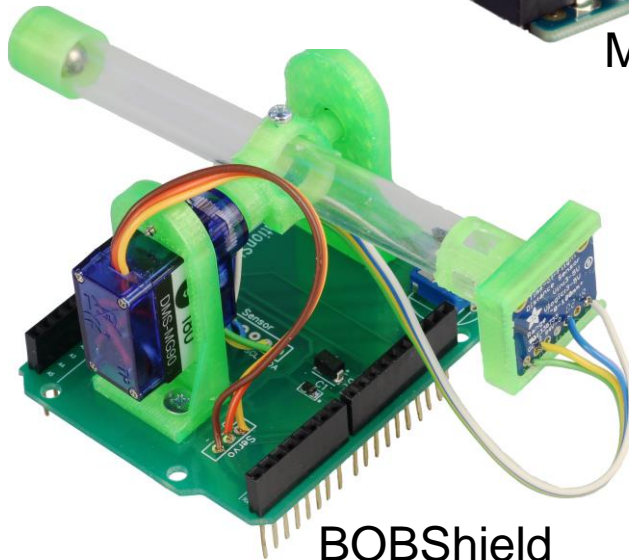
FloatShield



MagnetoShield



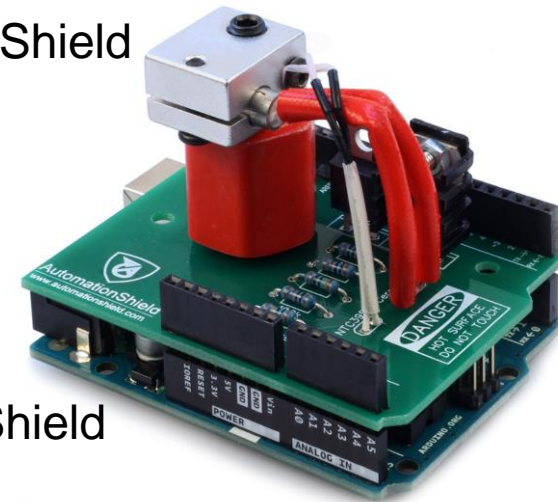
LinkShield



BOBShield



OptoShield



HeatShield





AutomationShield

Control Systems Engineering Education

# Thank you for your attention!

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